

**ABSTRACT**

The invention relates to surface cleaning apparatus for removing contamination from sheet materials such as phototools and liquid crystal display (LCD) screens. The apparatus comprises a base unit having opposing walls for supporting a removable roller cartridge containing at least one cleaning roller and one adhesive roller. Progressive insertion of the roller cartridge into the base unit causes a camming mechanism provided on the base unit and the roller cartridge to interact so as to move the cleaning and adhesive rollers from a non-operating position in which the rollers are separated into an operating position in which the adhesive roller is brought into abutment with the cleaning roller. The apparatus is held in the operating position by a latching mechanism, for example, an electromagnet which may be selectively activated and deactivated simultaneously with activation and deactivation of a driving motor. The features of the invention ensure that the transferring of adhesive from the adhesive roller to the cleaning roller is automatically prevented when the rollers are stationary, even in the event of a power failure.